

JOSEPH BROWN.

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JULY 21, 1842.

Read, and laid upon the table.

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MR. JONES, of Maryland, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Joseph Brown, of Clinton county, Pennsylvania, with the accompanying documents, have had the same under consideration, and report:*

That the petitioner sets forth various military services in the last war with Great Britain; that he was regularly discharged, and "is now old and infirm of health, and in indigent circumstances, and dependant on his friends for support," and he therefore prays Congress "to grant him an annuity for life in consideration of the services rendered as aforesaid."

The petitioner does not allege that he was wounded, or otherwise disabled, during his military service, and while in the line of his duty.

Some of the affidavits accompanying the petition allege that Mr. Brown was disabled by disease from exposure doing military duty. Patrick Madden, who states he was ensign in the same company with the petitioner, testifies that, during the campaign in 1813, the said Brown, whilst on duty and from extreme exposure, fell dangerously ill at Put-in bay, which resulted in a confirmed case of rheumatism. None of these affidavits set forth any *circumstances* of unusual exposure, and they are not authenticated by the seal of office of the proper officer, certifying that the person before whom the oath and deposition were made, was a justice of the peace, &c., authorized to administer oaths. The committee are of opinion that they ought to insist that the evidence in such cases shall be duly authenticated; but, in addition to the want of authenticity, the committee consider the testimony altogether too vague, uncertain, and inconclusive, particularly in the absence of any allegation in the petitioner's own written application, of any of those grounds upon which invalid pensions have been heretofore granted, to warrant them in reporting in favor of granting a pension in this case. They therefore ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition.

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IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
PASSED ON THE 12TH MARCH 1881  
IN RELATION TO THE LANDS BELONGING TO THE  
CROWN IN THE DISTRICT OF THE  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX  
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